

S-100,593

5

REMARKS

In the Office Action of November 4<sup>th</sup>, 2004, Examiner rejected Claims 8 and 9 under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as anticipated by Ditman et al. After review of Ditman et al., applicant agrees with Examiner. Examiner rejects Claims 10-19 as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but indicates that Claims 10-19 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form to including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

Applicants appreciate the indication of allowable subject matter by Examiner, and Claim 8 has been rewritten to include both dependent Claim 9 and dependent Claim 15 in order to present a novel independent claim for prosecution.

Therefore, the Examiner is requested to allow: original Claims 1-7, 12, 13, 19, 20-24, and currently amended Claims 8, 10, 11, 14, 16, 17, 18, and to pass this case to issue.

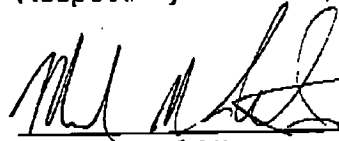
Applicant's attorney would be pleased to further discuss this matter by telephone with the Examiner if the Examiner concludes such a discussion would assist in moving this case to issue.

No new matter has been added as a result of this response.

Date: November 12, 2004

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Respectfully submitted,

  
Signature of Attorney

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